

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-13 ACDA-07 H-01 ARAE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 /077 W

-----231830Z 059776 /46

O 231738Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2667

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 1358

FOR LEURS FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, NU

SUBJECT: PREPARATION FOR YATRON SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS

REF: MANAGUA 1245

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1. EMBASSY SUGGESTS THE FOLLOWING APPROACH BE CONSIDERED IN PREPARATION OF ANY DEPARTMENT FORMAL STATEMENT OR IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS BEFORE THE FORTHCOMING CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SUCH AS THE YATRON SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING.

A. REPORTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN NICARAGUA THAT WERE MADE PUBLIC DURING PAST TWO MONTHS BY RESPECTED CATHOLIC CHURCH SOURCES ARE DEEPLY DISTURBING, AND WE HAVE EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN TO THE NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS. WE ALSO HAVE EMPHASIZED TO THE NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS. WE ALSO HAVE EMPHASIZED TO THE NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT THE IMPORTANCE OF AN IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATION OF THESE ACCUSATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS.

B. AT SAME TIME, WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT FACES A SMALL, DETERMINED AND VIOLENT MARXIST TERRORIST MOVEMENT THAT DISCONFIDENTIAL

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RESPECTS HUMAN RIGHTS AND REJECTS DEMOCRATIC VALUES, AND THAT INNOCENT PEOPLE ARE SOMETIMES HURT IN IN THE VIOLENT ENGAGEMENTS OF GOVERNMENT AND GUERRILLA FORCES. NEVERTHELESS, GOVERNMENTS ARE EXPECTED TO ACT WITH MODERATION AND JUSTICE AGAINST THEIR OPPONENTS, AND SHOULD NOT DEPRIVE ANY PERSON OF LIFE, LIBERTY OR PROPERTY WITHOUT DUE PROCESS.

C. THIS ADMINISTRATION DOES NOT AGREE THAT OUR PUBLIC EXPRESSION OF

CONCERN OVER THE INHUMAN TREATMENT OF HUMAN BEINGS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD CONSTITUTES INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY WHEN THESE COUNTRIES HAVE SIGNED THE CHARTERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE OAS. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WISHES TO MAKE EVERY LEGITIMATE AND USEFUL EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS SINCE THIS IS A FUNDAMENTAL IDEAL AND ASPIRATION OF ALL PEOPLES OF THE AMERICAS, ENSHRINED IN THEIR CONSTITUTIONS AND INTER-AMERICAN COMMITMENTS. IN SPEAKING UP ON THIS ISSUE, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS ENDEAVORING TO COMPLY WITH OUR SHARED IDEALS AND INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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2. COMMENT: IT IS LIKELY THAT THE GON WILL STRONGLY OBJECT TO ANY PUBLIC COMMENT BY THE UNITED STATES THAT IS CRITICAL ABOUT NICARAGUA'S HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION AND DECLARE THAT IT CONSTITUTES INTOLERABLE INTERFERENCE IN ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS. NEVERTHELESS, NOT TO SPEAK OUT CLEARLY AND FORCEFULLY ON THIS MATTER AT A TIME WHEN THE ADMINISTRATION PLACES HIGHEST PRIORITY ON PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS WOULD BE PERCEIVED LOCALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY AS TACITLY IGNORING PROBLEM AND DEFENDING SOMOZA. THE REACTION OF THE GON AND ITS CONTROLLED MEDIA TO ANY U.S. PUBLIC EXPRESSION OF CONCERN OVER INTERNAL HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IS MORE LIKELY TO BE MUTED IF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IS MADE OF THE FACT THAT GON FACES VIOLENT TERRORIST MOVEMENT THAT HAS NO RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS OR DEMOCRATIC VALUES. SUCH A COMMENT GIVES CRITICAL REMARKS ABOUT GON CONDUCT GREATER LEGITIMACY AND BALANCE FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF GON AND NICARAGUAN PUBLIC OPINION.

3. IF DEPARTMENT DECIDES TO MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT ON NEED FOR IM-
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PARTIAL INVESTIGATION, SERIOUS CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO ADVISING NICARAGUAN AMBASSADOR SEVILLA SACASA BEFOREHAND OF USG POSITION.

4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED IN TIMELY FASHION OF DEPARTMENT'S DECISION AND ANY ACTION PLANNED REGARDING THIS MATTER.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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SAS ID: 3025451
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PREPARATION FOR YATRON SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS
TAGS: SHUM, PGOV, NU, US, (YATRON, GUS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/999eaab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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